

YOU'RE INVITED TO A TOWN HALL MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 8		FRIDAY, APRIL 9	
8:30 a.m.	Tennessee Technology Center LPN Classroom 1405 Madison Street Shelbyville	8:30 a.m.	Depot Junction Café 108 Depot Avenue Watertown
10:30 a.m.	Lewisburg Recreation Center Meeting Room 1551 Mooresville Highway Lewisburg	10:00 a.m.	Defeated Elementary School Cafeteria 451 Defeated Creek Road Pleasant Shade
1:00 p.m.	Hendersonville Medical Center Community Room (off the front lobby) 355 New Shackle Island Road Hendersonville	Noon	Standing Stone State Park Tea Room 1674 Standing Stone State Park Highway Hilham
2:30 p.m.	City Hall 202 W. College Street Greenbriar	1:30 p.m.	Veterans Memorial Building 90 E. Spring Street Cookeville
		3:30 p.m.	Senior Citizens Center 103 College Street Liberty
SATURDAY, APRIL 10			
9:00 a.m.	La Vergne Civic Auditorium (Corner of Gambill Lane and Old Nashville Hwy.) La Vergne		

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JOIN CONGRESSMAN BART GORDON'S FIGHT AGAINST METH



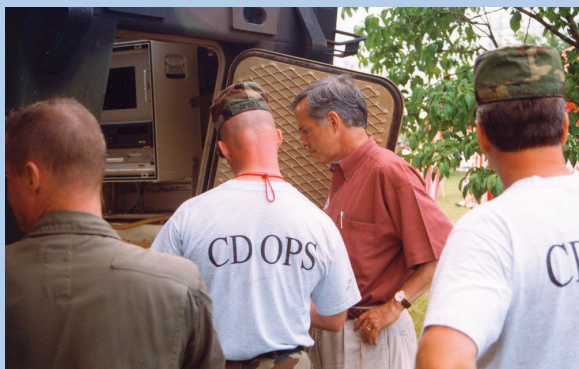
METH

TENNESSEE'S METH EMERGENCY



75% of Meth lab seizures in the
Southeast occur in Tennessee.

METH IS DESTROYING OUR TENNESSEE FAMILIES



Congressman Bart Gordon discusses drug-interdiction methods with members of the Tennessee National Guard.

Dear Friend,

Methamphetamine destroys not only those who use it, but also the people around them. Because it's so easy to make, many users manufacture the illicit drug in their homes.

Common household products are used to make meth, but many of those products are flammable and corrosive. Mixed together, they can produce toxic fumes and even explode, endangering the meth maker's children and neighbors. Meth labs have been set up in apartment buildings, homes, garages, places of business and even automobiles.

Hundreds of Tennessee children had to be placed in foster care last year because their parents were either addicted to meth or making the caustic substance. Authorities expect another 600 children will have to be placed in foster care in the next 12 months because of the problem.

Tennessee is facing a very real plague with methamphetamine. The people who use and manufacture meth are often violent and delusional. Long-term use can even lead to brain damage or death. Infants born to addicted mothers are at risk for premature birth, growth retardation and altered neonatal behavioral patterns.

That's why I have taken an active role in fighting meth. I support legislation that would fund efforts to rehabilitate users, clean up clandestine labs, and train and equip law enforcement. In fact, I was able to secure \$500,000 to help law enforcement fight meth in the Upper Cumberland region, which has been hit especially hard with the problem.

Like you, I want our communities to be safe and free of this horrible scourge. Let me know what you think about this problem. **Join me at one of my open meetings April 8, 9, and 10** so we can discuss ways to fight meth use and production in our communities.

Sincerely,

Bart Gordon

WHAT IS METH?

Methamphetamine is a potent central nervous system stimulant. Meth is smoked, snorted, injected or administered orally. Users refer to meth as "crank," "speed," "crystal" and "ice." Signs of meth use include dilated pupils, sweating, dry mouth, flushed skin and tremors. Methamphetamine users may also exhibit aggressive and psychotic behavior, irritability, anxiety, paranoia and auditory hallucinations. There are also limitless long-term health effects attributed to methamphetamine use, including cardiac and neurological damage.

WHY SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?

Methamphetamine users aren't the only people poisoned by this drug. Meth manufacturing is extremely dangerous and involves many common household chemical products. These chemicals, and the array of their combinations, are potentially lethal and toxic. When mixed, the household chemicals used in the manufacturing process can damage the central nervous system, liver and kidneys, and burn or irritate the skin, eyes, nose and throat. The chemicals and fumes that permeate the walls, carpets, plaster and wood in meth labs, as well as the surrounding soil, are known to cause cancer, short-term and permanent brain damage and immune and respiratory system problems.



SIGNS OF A METH LAB

Any single activity may or may not be sole proof that drug dealing or methamphetamine manufacturing is occurring. However, a combination of the following may be reason for concern. (from South/East Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force)



- **Frequent visitors at all times of the day.**
- **Activity at the house is usually at odd hours.**
- **Occupants are unemployed but have plenty of cash.**
- **Occupants are unfriendly and appear secretive.**
- **Occupants watch passing cars suspiciously.**
- **Occupants display a paranoid or odd behavior.**
- **Extensive security at the surrounding house.**
- **Windows blackened or curtains always drawn.**
- **Occupants go outside the house to smoke.**
- **Chemical odors coming from the house or garage.**
- **Garbage contains numerous bottles and containers.**
- **Coffee filters, bed sheets or other material stained from filtering red phosphorus or other chemicals.**

TENNESSEE
METH WATCH



Report suspicious activity to the TBI Drug Investigation Division at

1-877-TNN-METH

A partnership between law enforcement and the retail industry: TBI, Tennessee Sheriffs Association, Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Tennessee Retail Marketers Association.